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Pawtucket man is convicted of trafficking in crack cocaine

A federal jury in Providence has convicted **Joshua J. Perry**, 24, of Pawtucket, of trafficking in crack cocaine. In August, Pawtucket Police found about 50 grams of crack cocaine in Perry's apartment at 52 Lyon Street.

United States Attorney Robert Clark Corrente announced the guilty verdict, which the jury returned yesterday in U.S. District Court, Providence, following about four hours of deliberation and a two-day trial before U.S. District Court Judge William E. Smith.

During the trial, Assistant U.S. Attorney Stephen G. Dambruch presented evidence that, on August 3, Pawtucket Police detectives obtained a state-authorized search warrant for Perry's apartment on the first floor at 52 Lyons Street. Detectives seized plastic bags containing a total of about 49.5 grams of crack cocaine plus trafficking materials and \$1,100 in cash.

Perry had been arrested earlier that day after a traffic stop in I-95. He was charged with state drug-trafficking offenses and the case was referred to the U.S. Attorney's Office for prosecution.

The jury found Perry guilty of two charges: possessing with intent to distribute crack cocaine and doing so within 1,000 feet of a school. The statutory maximum penalty for the first offense is 40 years in prison plus a \$2,000,000 fine and ordinarily carries a five-year mandatory minimum. However, because Perry has been previously convicted of drug trafficking.

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he faces a potential ten-year minimum. The statutory maximum penalty for trafficking in crack cocaine within a school zone is 80 years in federal prison and a \$4,000,000 fine.

Perry, is detained pending sentencing, which is scheduled for April 29.

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